

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action of June 30, 2006, in which the Examiner indicated that claims 1 and 23 are duplicates. Claim 23 has been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-22 and 23 as allegedly anticipated by Parce *et al.* Claims 24 and 25 were rejected as unpatentable over Parce *et al.* According to the Examiner it would have been obvious to operate the mixer of Parce *et al.* by the recited method steps.

The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 has been amended in order to include therein the subject matter of claim 2, and also to include language wherein the first and second channels intersect at different longitudinal positions. This is believed to clearly distinguish the invention over Parce *et al.* cited by the Examiner.

In Parce *et al.* the figures clearly show that the channels intersect at a right angle. The amended claims specify that the channels intersect between different longitudinal positions. Further, in order to clarify the differences between the invention and the reference, the Applicant has specified that the cross-section of the intersecting first and second channels is T-shaped for at least a portion of said intersection. The basis for this claim can be found in original claim 2 and in figures 5 and 6. The T-shape is the flow cross-section of the intersecting channels rather than the plan view shown, for example, in figure 1 of Parce *et al.*

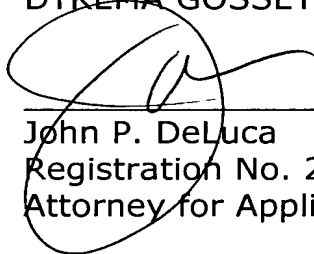
The advantage of the invention is specified in pages 2 and 3 of the application. The present invention allows enhanced mixing of fluids by moving part of one of the fluids in one position in the flow channel to a different position in the flow channel, thereby creating more boundaries across which the different fluids can mix. This arrangement is not shown or suggested in the reference wherein the channels simply cross each other at a discrete intersection. In the present invention, the channels

overlap longitudinally. Further, the intersecting channels form a T-shaped cross-section along at least a portion of the intersecting elements. This arrangement is not shown or suggested in the cited reference.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider his rejection of the claims, the allowance of which is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 04-2223 for the petition fee which may be charged in connection with this request.

Respectfully submitted,
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